**Minutes of Annual General Meeting 13th October 2022**

**K+K Hotel George, Templeton Place, London SW5 at 19:00**

1. **Introduction by Linda Wade starting on time at 19:00**

Introduction from the chair, to a packed room of around 100 residents, focusing on what we were there to discuss and also reminding on what the geographical parameters of the Nevern Square Conservation Area

Apologies: Sandra Yarwood, John Winters, Bora Ristic, Cllr. Emma Will, Susan Sriberg, Eva Scott-Bennin

1. **Police presentation by Inspector Tom Sincock**
* Policing policy and the challenge with lack of funding and lack of manpower
* Explained the Tri-Borough approach meaning RBKC was regularly deprived of manpower as they were involved in policing large events being held in Westminster
* Earl’s Court Ward selected for overtime funding which would mean more people on the ground in the Ward. This trial run had started, and the results were yet to be seen
* issues concerning large events in Westminster using up resources that were meant to be available for other parts of London
* Police response time and the connection to lack of manpower and resources
* Recognition of the problems faced in Earl’s Court during the last year with ASB and drug users and dealers being the number 1 problem
* 12-14 RBKC Wardens are in the process of pairing up with the local police to improve their training and visibility in the area, with one warden per ward being made available
* Talked about 101 and how it is not working, if not an emergency residents can report a crime, incident or activity on <https://www.met.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>
For non-urgent communication: earlscourt.SNT@met.police.uk

Sgt. Hattie Jones
The Earl’s Court Team
PC Steve Dell
PC Matthew Bantick
PCSO Danny Wright

* Operation Evert and how they are trying to get Earl’s Court on this to get extra funding
* Key message was to report all crime to show the true level of crime that then would give extra emphasis for increased funding for Earls Court
* During the presentation much input (and frustration) from the residents in attendance covering topics like: 1. Normalisation of ASB, 2. Fear and concern about crime and personal safety, 3. How can the community help?
* One month initiative specifically focused on reducing crime in the Earls Court area
* ASBOs against repeat offenders who are largely known to the local community
1. **Response by Felicity Buchan, MP for Kensington**
* Recognition of the problem and that she has highlighted on her calls with the Police Commissioner the issues in Earl’s Court twice a month
* Apparently, Earl’s Court is not the worst area in RBKC, it is the fifth, but ASB is more widely spread across the ward
* The newly appointed Police Commissioner wants to return to back to basics with policing
* apparently up to 20,000 new police officers should be employed (no specific reference as to timing)
* Regular meeting and working together to try and solve the issues, services coming together
* How do we help as a community? Neighbourhood watch suggested.
* Again, during the presentation much input (and frustration) from the residents – some quite angry and vocal
* Some response from Inspector Sincock on FB’s presentation with a general acknowledgement that 101 simply does not work for reporting crime and an acknowledgement that online reporting was never responded to
* Inspector Sincock said that more CCTV was due to be installed. No locations for that specified. \*
* Significant concerns from the floor over shoplifting from stores on Earl’s Court Road and what can be done to deal with that. Police acknowledged that they simply do not have the manpower to respond to shoplifting issues and that is for the stores to deal with.
* Acknowledgment that ASB and drug related issues are spreading to Abingdon and Redcliffe Wards.
* Floor suggestions of
(1) more robust response from the police when advised of issues by members of the public and
(2) local volunteers from the community to volunteer for a period for time.
* Inspector Sincock to come back with a list of initiatives that volunteers could get involved in.
* General encouragement from the floor that within 3 months’ time a further meeting was needed to ascertain on next steps and any progress made.
* Felicity left at 8.15pm to attend another constituency meeting

\*This would have to go to the CCTV board and be an action point from this meeting
\*Tom Sincock to provide a list of initiatives

1. **Earl’s Court Business Forum presentation by Christophe Noblet**
* Objective is to improve the area and shops in Earl’s Court Road
* Residents’ Questionnaire distributed to get input from them on the Earl’s Court Road
* Floor raised various issues in particular about the mess that the retailers leave on the pavements making Earls Court Road dirty and unsightly
* Covered topics including business rents and the difficulty in operating a business in Earl’s Court Road as well as the lack of attention to detail by existing businesses with for example disposal of rubbish
* Shoplifting and the level and severity of this topic with existing businesses in the Earl’s Court Road raised again
* Connection between the Earl’s Court Exhibition development and connection to the traffic and usage in Earl’s Court Road raised but overall feel was the new development site would not work well to improve the issues on Earl’s Court Road
1. Business of the meeting quickly covered, and committee members reappointed:
Resignations

Debra Alexander, Abhin Shah

Elections of committee members:

1. Molly-Clare O’Donnell
2. Alex Harris
3. John Winter
4. Bora Ristic
5. Pierre-Emmanuel Causse
6. Accounts, please see attached
7. Warwick Road Planter/Greening
8. Neighbourhood Watch
9. Bike Hangars
10. Waste: dumping, disposal and food waste not covered
11. AOB not covered

The meeting closed at 21.10.